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ASSISTANCE IN MINE CLEARANCE

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Since 1993, the General Assembly has been seized with the issue of assistance in mine clearance. In its resolution 50/82 of 14 December 1995, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-first session a report on the progress achieved on all relevant issues outlined in his reports to the Assembly at its forty-ninth (A/49/357 and Add.1 and 2) and fiftieth (A/50/408) sessions on assistance in mine clearance and on the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance.

2. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request. It provides information on the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system, as well as of other organizations and non-governmental organizations involved in mine-action activities. It reports on ongoing mine-action programmes in Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Croatia, Eastern Slavonia, Laos, Mozambique and Yemen. The report also addresses the functioning of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance and the progress made so far in the establishment of a standby capacity for mine clearance.

3. In response to the Assembly's request to promote scientific research and development on humanitarian mine-clearance techniques and technology, the Government of Denmark, with the support of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, convened an International Conference on Mine-Clearance Technology in July 1996. The outcome of this Conference is also addressed in the present report.

II. UNITED NATIONS MINE-CLEARANCE PROGRAMMES

A. Role of the entities of the United Nations system

4. During the past year, the United Nations has coordinated mine-clearance programmes in a total of nine countries. It is likely that assistance will be requested for Tajikistan, northern Iraq and Georgia in the near future. A sustainable national mine-clearance capacity is the objective in each country, and to that end programmes are developed in close collaboration with the Governments concerned. Each programme is tailored to local geographic, economic and security conditions, and includes elements of training, mine clearance, surveying, community awareness, medical treatment and rehabilitation. Coordinated by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, each country programme integrates the specialized knowledge and skills of a number of United Nations agencies, as well as the services of government agencies and local and international non-governmental organizations.

5. Within the United Nations system, the following entities are involved in mine-action programmes: Department of Humanitarian Affairs, Department of Peacekeeping Operations, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and World Food Programme (WFP).

6. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs is the focal point for all humanitarian mine-clearance activities. In this capacity, the Department is responsible for the development of national and local capacities for humanitarian demining. In instances where demining related to peacekeeping activities has preceded the humanitarian operations as part of the activities of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the two Departments work closely to ensure greater complementarity between such demining activities and humanitarian mine-action programmes. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs coordinates humanitarian mine-clearance activities by establishing policy guidelines for post-conflict mine-clearance activities; providing managerial oversight to established country programmes; encouraging and facilitating the development of new technology; mobilizing resources for mine-clearance activities, and coordinating advocacy efforts on the mines issue.

7. The Department works closely with government agencies in assisting the elaboration of national priorities and in formulating mine-clearance strategies, providing support in management and technical training and facilitating the establishment of local demining capacities, including through local non-governmental organizations.

8. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations is responsible for mine-clearance activities related to peacekeeping missions. It provides technical support to mine-clearance and surveying operations conducted during peacekeeping missions and advises the Department of Humanitarian Affairs on the provision of equipment to demining operations. It works closely with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs to ensure the smooth transition from peacekeeping demining operations to long-term humanitarian programmes.

9. United Nations peacekeeping forces undertake mine-clearance and mine-awareness reconnaissance and training when necessary for the fulfilment of peacekeeping mandates and the safety of United Nations personnel. These activities rarely reach the level of integration necessary for humanitarian mine-clearance operations, but some elements - such as the clearance of roads for safe passage of peacekeepers - are of great value to ongoing and future humanitarian programmes. Of crucial benefit to the humanitarian activities is the military establishment of infrastructure such as database information and coordination of equipment.

10. The United Nations Development Programme provides support to several mine-action programmes to ensure their integration with other development programmes and their long-term sustainability. Activities include surveying, clearance, mine awareness and training.

11. As humanitarian mine action programmes mature and the management of such programmes is handed over to the national Governments, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs relies on UNDP for long-term administrative and logistical support to the national programmes. In some cases, UNDP has initiated demining programmes in support of development efforts.

12. The United Nations Children's Fund takes the lead in activities designed to limit the effects of mines on women and children. These include mine-awareness

programmes, physical and psychological rehabilitation of mine victims, and public advocacy efforts worldwide.

13. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees works to alleviate the effects of mines on refugees and internally displaced persons. The majority of UNHCR activities relate to mine awareness, but in exceptional circumstances may extend to mine clearance and surveying.

14. The World Food Programme supports mine-clearance activities that address its own particular mandate. Such activities include the clearance of roads and agricultural lands as well as the provision of food and logistical support to other United Nations mine-clearance efforts.

15. Other United Nations agencies, including the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), have engaged in mine-action activities on a more limited basis.

B. Role of non-governmental organizations

16. The United Nations mine-action programmes work closely also with non-governmental organizations. Non-governmental organizations undertake the training of local personnel in mine-awareness, survey and demining operations. They are often the first organizations operating in a country during the emergency phase.

17. During the emergency phase, non-governmental organizations respond almost exclusively to humanitarian requirements, concentrating on rapid response to the needs for mine-awareness and demining activities in support of the local population, other non-governmental organizations and the United Nations. Several non-governmental organizations, such as CARE International and Save the Children Fund (United States of America) now incorporate mine-awareness, survey and demining activities in support of their other humanitarian activities such as health, social, agricultural and food-for-work programmes as part of an integrated approach.

18. In a growing number of instances, non-governmental organizations make a valuable contribution as partners to the United Nations and national institutes as advisers under the overall coordination and leadership of the United Nations. During a typical demining programme's development, several non-governmental organizations incorporate personnel in support of the United Nations organizational structure. In some countries, such as Afghanistan, national non-governmental organizations are implementing partners for mine-clearance operations.

19. Other organizations, such as the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, are active in advocating the ban on the production, export and use of landmines.

20. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is particularly active in the field of medical care for mine victims and subsequent mine injury rehabilitation. It is also active in promoting the ban on landmines.

C. Description of United Nations mine-clearance operations

1. Objectives of mine-clearance programmes

21. The previous report of the Secretary-General on assistance in mine clearance (A/50/408) outlined in some detail the objectives of the United Nations mine-clearance programmes and their various common elements.

22. The primary objective of the United Nations mine-clearance programmes is to develop national capacities capable of managing and executing an integrated mine-clearance programme consisting of mine clearance, training in mine-clearance, mine awareness, mine survey and mined-area marking.

23. An integrated humanitarian mine-clearance programme is normally implemented through a mine-action centre established by the United Nations in cooperation with the national Government. Under the auspices of the mine-action centre the various component parts of the integrated mine-clearance programme are implemented.

24. In many instances a training school is established to train national personnel in the various skills required of the mine-clearance programme. International staff are employed as trainers and technical advisers to train national managers, instructors, supervisors and deminers. The curriculum includes not only mine-surveying and clearance techniques but also the training of paramedics as required to satisfy international demining and safety standards. Progressively, international staff are phased out and national personnel assume full responsibility for the programme.

25. Integral to the mine-clearance programme are non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies conducting mine-clearance, mine-awareness and mine-survey activities. All mine-clearance and related activities are conducted under the auspices of the mine-action centre and the results recorded on a national mine database.

26. Surveying the extent of landmine contamination is, in most instances, the first priority for the mine-clearance operation. The results of initial surveys form the basis for determining the scale of the mine problem and for establishing mine-clearance priorities. More detailed surveys are undertaken at a later date to delineate minefields more accurately and to focus demining efforts.

27. In implementing mine-awareness activities, populations at risk are provided with information on landmines and on how to deal with landmine-infested areas, including safety practices and behaviour. Classes include how to mark and report them and how to minimize the chances of becoming landmine victims.

28. Landmine injuries place a huge burden on the health-care systems of mine-affected countries. All too often these countries are already crippled by war and cannot afford this additional cost. In some but not all cases, and in cooperation with national Governments and international non-governmental organizations, the United Nations integrates physical and psychological rehabilitation programmes into its mine-clearance activities. Organizations

such as ICRC, Médecins sans frontières and Handicap International serve as lead agencies in these areas. Medical teams accompanying demining units often provide health-care services to local communities, since in many situations they are the only such facility to which the population has access.

2. Inter-agency coordination

29. During the course of a United Nations mine-clearance operation, programme responsibility passes through as many as three separate United Nations entities. This approach has developed over the years, with mainstream activities being defined as part of either a peacekeeping or a humanitarian operation. In times of conflict and where a peacekeeping operation is deployed, mine-clearance work is primarily undertaken by the peacekeeping force which undertakes mine-clearance activities as required for its peacekeeping mandate and operations. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs takes the necessary steps, in most instances at the request of the national Government, to establish a humanitarian mine-clearance programme in order to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance, to provide an environment for the safe return of internally displaced persons and refugees, to facilitate the rehabilitation of a war-torn country and to allow a country to return to normal economic activities as quickly as possible.

30. While emergency demining sometimes has to be undertaken to facilitate the smooth operations of peacekeeping missions and the delivery of humanitarian assistance, the primary objective for humanitarian mine-action programmes is to establish a national capacity for mine clearance as soon as conditions permit. The United Nations, therefore, finds itself obliged, in many instances, to address concurrently these different requirements. This requires not only close cooperation between peacekeeping missions and United Nations activities in the humanitarian field, but also effective coordination with non-governmental organizations, which are playing an increasingly active role in humanitarian mine-clearance activities. Close cooperation with humanitarian organizations is also critical to ensure that, in setting operational priorities for mine-clearance activities, their concerns and requirements are taken fully into account.

31. In instances where there is a need for transition from peacekeeping mine clearance to a humanitarian mine-action programme, the transitional arrangements are carefully planned and managed. Normally, such a transition would involve changing over from an operation financed from a peacekeeping assessed budget to one funded by voluntary contributions. This would entail, if necessary, the continuation of the support of troop-contributing countries with different funding arrangements. In addition, arrangements must be made for the necessary demining and communication equipment, together with the necessary logistic support to remain in place to ensure that demining activities are not adversely affected. Such arrangements require the approval of the General Assembly. In the case of Mozambique, the General Assembly agreed to the transfer of demining equipment from the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (UNOMOZ) to the humanitarian demining programme. Similar arrangements are being made for Angola.

32. In order to ensure the greatest possible synergy between peacekeeping demining and humanitarian demining, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations are working closely together. Such cooperation includes the undertaking of joint planning and assessment missions, and the sharing of staff and other resources in field operations. The two Departments are also working jointly in the promotion of new technology and the adoption of international demining and safety standards.

33. Another important aspect of coordination is the transfer of the management of mine-clearance activities to national Governments and local authorities in a timely manner. In Cambodia, the United Nations successfully helped to establish a national capacity for demining and transferred its management to a national institute. Similar arrangements will be made for the programmes in Mozambique and Angola. During the transitional period, the United Nations will continue, if necessary, to provide technical and financial support through technical cooperation projects to be implemented jointly by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs and UNDP.

34. With a growing number of non-governmental organizations engaged in mine-action activities, it is imperative that there is effective coordination to ensure that activities of non-governmental organizations serve as integral components of a national mine-action programme. In the case of Angola, non-governmental organizations have agreed to contribute to the efforts of the Government of Angola and the United Nations in the formulation of a national mine-action programme and the elaboration of priorities for demining activities. The United Nations is also working closely with non-governmental organizations to promote the adoption of demining and safety standards and the establishment of an information network and databases.

D. Country programmes

1. Afghanistan

35. Afghanistan is still regarded as one of the countries most severely affected by landmines. An estimated 10 million mines are believed to have been strewn throughout the country during the years of conflict, dropped randomly from the air, buried in concentrated clusters or laid individually as booby traps. They now contaminate almost every conceivable type of terrain, with no records to indicate their precise location. In addition, years of conflict have left unexploded ordnance scattered across the country. The United Nations estimates that 150 of Afghanistan's 325 districts remain affected by mines and unexploded ordnance. Mines are a particular problem in districts near borders and around major population centres. Unexploded ordnance is a significant problem in the capital, Kabul, and some of the major cities. Both mines and unexploded ordnance continue to impede the return of refugees and the rehabilitation of the nation's economy. Civilian casualties continue, with an estimated 10 people each day being maimed or killed.

36. The Mine Clearance Programme within the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (UNOCHA) is the largest and longest running United Nations-supported demining programme. Established in 1989, it

consists of four main elements: mine awareness, minefield survey, mine clearance and demining-related training. The Programme is implemented by 3,100 workers, employed by six Afghan non-governmental organizations, two international non-governmental organizations, a relief agency and one internationally supported local broadcasting organization.

37. In addition to those supported directly by UNOCHA, a number of other agencies are involved in mine-related activities. The International Committee of the Red Cross, the Afghan Red Crescent Society and a number of local media broadcasting stations continue to disseminate mine-awareness messages. Handicap International and Radda Barnen (Swedish Save the Children Fund), supported by UNHCR, are likewise promoting awareness among local villagers and refugees. UNICEF is providing funding and support to the mine-education programme run by Save the Children Fund (USA).

38. The Programme's achievements in 1995 significantly exceeded targets, owing to steady and increased funding coupled with innovations developed by the United Nations staff and their implementing partners. Since the Programme's inception, more than 300,000 mines and unexploded ordnance have been destroyed, 130 square kilometres of former battlefield areas have been made safe and some 2.5 million people have directly received mine-awareness briefings. Thousands of other Afghans are receiving mine-awareness messages through local radio and television broadcasts. By the end of 1995, 150 square kilometres of high-priority non-battlefield land had been marked, of which more than 80 square kilometres has been cleared. UNOCHA estimates that, at the rate sustained in 1995 and with adequate funding, the remaining 70 square kilometres of priority non-battlefield land could be cleared by the end of 1998.

39. There were a number of notable programme achievements in 1995. In collaboration with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Afghan Education Drama Project, the Programme developed and broadcast key mine-awareness messages through the medium of radio drama. The Programme's battle area clearance and explosive ordnance disposal capabilities were further expanded with teams assigned to clear unexploded ordnance in Kabul. The Afghan campaign to ban landmines, with support from UNOCHA, initiated public-awareness activities encouraging factions to ban the use and stockpiling of mines. The Programme commenced restructuring, with a view to further improving management, coordination and integration with other operational agencies.

40. In 1996, as part of the Mine Clearance Programme, Save the Children Fund (USA) began implementing its mine education and avoidance project with children in Kabul. Handicap International initiated a pilot mine-awareness programme in rural areas of south-western Afghanistan.

41. Based on technical developments, years of experience and the achievements of 1995, the goals for 1996 were raised. It is expected that the Programme will clear a total of 46.5 square kilometres of high-priority land; 40 square kilometres of mined areas will be surveyed and marked; approximately 600,000 people will receive mine-awareness briefings; sufficient training will be provided to ensure that current staffing levels and future needs are met; and the Programme will be active in 23 of Afghanistan's 29 provinces. Efforts to

improve the safety, coordination and cost-effectiveness of the operation will continue.

2. Angola

42. The Lusaka Protocol, signed in November 1994, brought to an end more than two decades of civil war in Angola. No part of the country was left unscathed by the conflict, and the physical and human toll has been enormous. The use of mines for defensive and offensive operations was a critical tactic of both warring parties, and Angola has been left with one of the worst mine situations in the world. There are an estimated 9 to 15 million mines strewn across the country, making access to areas beyond town perimeters extremely difficult and disrupting all aspects of relief and reconstruction. In 1994, it was estimated that there were between 150 and 200 new mine casualties each week; as the 300,000 refugees and 1.2 million internally displaced persons start to return home, this number will undoubtedly increase. Already, the country carries the burden of 70,000 amputees, 8,000 of whom are children. The direct cost of medical and rehabilitative treatment for these victims alone is estimated to be $240 million.

43. The cessation of hostilities has allowed the mine-clearance programme to shift from reactive and response-driven to proactive. The responsibility for mine-clearance activities rests with the Government of Angola, which has established the National Institute for the Removal of Explosive Obstacles (INAROE). In due course, INAROE will assume control of mine programmes now supported by the United Nations and other international organizations. Meanwhile, the Central Mine Action Office (CMAO), established by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs in 1994, works closely with INAROE to coordinate the national mine-action programme. CMAO provides specialized technical and managerial support, and Angolan personnel work alongside their United Nations counterparts to familiarize themselves with the operations. The transition from United Nations to government authority is expected to be gradual, and it is likely that technical support will continue to be necessary during 1997.

44. The need for skilled demining personnel is acute. The Central Mine Action Training School (CMATS), established by the United Nations, began training in early 1996. Thus far, 400 deminers, 10 instructors and other support staff have graduated and been deployed to four regional headquarters. Another 250 will graduate by the end of January 1997. The United Nations envisages the training of another 250 deminers in the second half of 1997.

45. Demining work is being undertaken by INAROE with the technical support of the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and commercial companies. Of highest priority is the clearance of access routes to enable the safe passage of peacekeeping forces and humanitarian assistance programmes throughout the country. The World Food Programme has been active in road clearance, alongside several non-governmental organization partners. By June 1996, more than 3,600 kilometres of roads had been cleared. The total number of mines cleared by this time was more than 80,000. The total land area made safe from mines was 150 square kilometres.

46. A level I survey is being carried out nationwide by the United Nations with the support of non-governmental organizations. The purpose of the survey is to locate hazardous areas and demarcate them as accurately and clearly as possible. Information is gathered from local communities and other sources, and collated in the national database at CMAO/INAROE. The database provides the foundation for more detailed levels II and III surveys.

47. A national mine awareness programme was established in 1994 and is currently being coordinated by INAROE/CMAO with the support of UNICEF and Angolan non-governmental organizations. UNHCR and other humanitarian organizations also conduct awareness programmes as part of the repatriation effort. By June 1996, mine-awareness programmes had reached more than 920,000 people.

48. Facilities for medical care and mine injury rehabilitation in Angola are woefully inadequate, and the chances that a mine victim will die before receiving medical attention are higher than in most mine-infested countries. A medical team joined CMAO in mid-1996 to support the Programme. Several non-governmental organizations also carry out mine-related medical activities throughout the country.

3. Bosnia and Herzegovina

49. More than four years of conflict in the former Yugoslavia have caused widespread destruction in large parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, causing hundreds of thousands of deaths and injuries and forcing more than 3 million people from their homes. Landmines have been deployed prolifically throughout the conflict: according to current estimates, more than 3 million mines have been laid, contaminating not only roads but also agricultural land, towns and villages. Because of the shifting nature of the conflict, many areas have been mined more than once, and sophisticated mine-laying techniques have been employed to hamper detection and clearance. Civilian casualties from mines were deceptively low during wartime, but are rising dramatically as refugees and displaced persons return to their homes within former zones of conflict.

50. The cessation of hostilities following the Dayton peace agreement signed on 10 November 1995 has enabled the reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina to begin. The Government, with the assistance of United Nations agencies and the international community, is in the process of establishing a national mine-clearance capacity to assume responsibility for mine-related activities, and in April 1996 the Agency for Protection from Mines was established. However, the Government is not yet in a position to address fully the mines problem from a national perspective. This situation is likely to remain for some time. In the meantime, the Government is working closely with existing mine-clearance efforts now coordinated by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs.

51. To coordinate mine-clearance activities and to facilitate the process of national capacity-building, the Mine Action Centre was established at the end of March 1996, initially with some funds from the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Government of the United States of America. To ensure the long-term sustainability of mine-clearance programmes, control of the Centre

passed from the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to the Department of Humanitarian Affairs in June 1996. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs drew up a plan of action for the coming year in consultation with the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and various donors, whose contributions to the Centre will allow the programme to expand.

52. The Centre's responsibilities include coordinating the establishment of mine survey capabilities, clearance and awareness operations, training mine survey and clearance teams, managing the national mine information database and recruiting local staff as part of the nationalization process. The first training course, providing one emergency clearance team and three survey teams, graduated in June. Mobile training teams have also been established, to train mine-clearance teams centrally and on site.

53. The UNICEF Mine-Awareness Programme in Bosnia and Herzegovina started in 1994. With children and their parents as the focus, this Programme includes the production of leaflets and posters explaining the dangers of mines, in-service teacher-training seminars and accompanying manuals, and mobile exhibitions displaying the different types of mines that may be encountered.

54. While the cessation of hostilities has allowed mine-clearance activities to commence, there have been a number of factors impeding their smooth operation. As peace and stability return to the region it is hoped that these initial problems will be resolved and that the process will gain momentum. The Government and the World Bank have recently agreed on a loan to be provided for mine-clearance activities and the conditions under which mine-clearance agencies can be contracted. The World Bank has identified several reconstruction projects and is working closely with the Mine Action Centre regarding the demining requirements of the projects. Four small demining projects are being initiated at the present time.

55. Contracts for high-priority mine-clearance operations have been awarded, and three of the four regional offices for the Centre have been established. The establishment of a training facility is currently being planned as part of a new mine-action programme covering the period from October 1996 to September 1997. A study is also under way to identify options for the development of a national non-governmental organization capacity.

4. Cambodia

56. Following detailed surveys carried out in the past two years, estimates of the number of mines in Cambodia have decreased from 10 million to 4 to 6 million. Nevertheless, the task of mine clearance and rehabilitation is daunting. Landmines affect approximately 50 per cent of the country and have placed a terrible burden on its agricultural and medical infrastructures. One in every 236 Cambodians is an amputee, the highest proportion in the world. Every month an additional 100 to 200 mine casualties occur, and for every survivor there is at least one fatality. The economic cost of landmines, in terms of lost agricultural production, the diversion of medical resources from other critical needs and the diminished economic capacity of landmine victims, is severe and is likely to increase for many years to come.

57. Mine-clearance operations began under the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), and were transferred in 1992 to a newly established government agency, the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC). The United Nations has continued to provide technical advice to CMAC through UNDP. As of June 1996, CMAC employed 1,800 Cambodian nationals in 48 demining platoons, 18 mine-marking teams, 15 explosive ordnance disposal teams and 2 mobile mine-awareness teams.

58. CMAC maintains a database of all suspected and confirmed minefields in the country. In 1995, CMAC began a minefield verification project to confirm the true scope of the landmine problem. The project will run until 1997, and has already reduced the total estimate of mines in the country by 4 million and the area of suspected minefields by some 996 square kilometres. The size of the problem, however, is still enormous, with approximately 1,880 square kilometres of minefields remaining.

59. In addition to the land cleared through verification, CMAC has cleared 27 square kilometres through manual clearance and explosive ordnance disposal operations. This has enabled approximately 22,500 families to return to their homes, and up to 3,500 additional tons of rice to be produced each year. Clearance operations prioritize areas targeted for resettlement by displaced persons and land with high casualty rates, followed by agricultural land that will support resettled populations.

60. The CMAC mine-awareness programme works at both national and local levels. Achievements include organization of the annual Mine Awareness Day, on 24 February; development of a national mine awareness curriculum in collaboration with non-governmental organizations; development of materials for television, radio and written media, and conduct of village mine-awareness education programmes using mobile teams.

61. CMAC has drawn up a five-year strategy for the period 1996-2000. The strategy sets targets for mine clearance, training, awareness and surveying, and calls for decreasing reliance on expatriate personnel for technical, managerial and strategic planning support. The mandate of UNDP to provide technical support has been renewed until 1998, and funding is being sought from the international community to augment the contributions of the Government of Cambodia.

5. Croatia

(a) General

62. There are currently an estimated 3 million mines deployed in Croatia. Mines were used extensively by all sides in the four-year conflict, mainly to protect defensive positions along confrontation lines, but also to prevent access to places of strategic importance such as railway lines, utility stations and pipelines. The bulk of the mines are located along former lines of confrontation between the Croatians and the Krajina Serbs, although their exact locations are unknown owing to inaccurate or non-existent mapping and marking. Many maps, of varying degrees of usefulness, have been provided by both sides in

an effort to expedite clearance activities. Mines have also been strewn in towns and cities, including Dubrovnik, Vukovar, Osijek and Split.

63. Since mines were laid predominantly in battle areas from which civilian populations had fled, casualties during the war were mainly among the military. Statistics are unreliable because of the difficulties of gathering data in wartime and the inconsistencies in record-keeping in many hospitals and clinics. However, a recent survey suggests that in the Serb-controlled area known as Sector North there were as many as 50 to 100 mine casualties per month. As refugees return to their homes, civilian casualties are bound to escalate. The process of refugee repatriation is likely to be particularly complex and the difficulties of rehousing displaced persons will be further complicated by the need to determine areas as free of mines before any reconstruction and relocation projects can proceed.

64. The cessation of hostilities, the withdrawal of United Nations peacekeeping forces and the first steps on the road to reconstruction have each had profound effects on the mine-clearance operation in Croatia. Between September 1995 and August 1996 responsibility for demining passed through a total of three entities, each with a different mandate and a different chain of command. Until the termination of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) mission in December 1995, all mine-related activities were coordinated through the UNPROFOR Mine Action Centre at Zagreb. The focus of the Centre was on mine awareness and data collection, and no mine-clearance work was undertaken. When the peacekeeping force departed, a smaller, interim Centre was maintained by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs assumed responsibility on 1 June 1996 to support the establishment of a national capacity for humanitarian mine clearance. The Centre continues to maintain the existing database and training operations. It also assisted the Mine Action Centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina by securing the necessary demining equipment. Since the Government of Croatia is developing a significant mine-clearance and training capacity of its own, the Centre will remain small and will limit its assistance to mine-awareness and survey work.

(b) Eastern Slavonia

65. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations originally established the Mine Action Centre in Eastern Slavonia. Since June 1996, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs assumed responsibility and has been working closely with the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (UNTAES) and humanitarian organizations. Both Croatian and Serb representatives will join the Centre in the immediate future. A database has been established and considerable progress has been made thus far, in large part because both parties to the conflict have made minefield records available.

66. Mine-awareness training is conducted in close cooperation with other agencies to reach teachers, hospitals and children. Mine clearance is under way in support of UNHCR pilot projects in three villages, in the Djeletovci oilfield, along the railway line north of Osijek and in Croatian villages in the south. Of great significance is the offer from the Government of Croatia to fund the demining projects in the three pilot project villages and involve Serbs as part of the demining teams. This arrangement has enabled the United Nations

to use the contributions of the European Union previously earmarked for this task for other demining activities in the region.

67. Overall, considerable progress has been made in establishing a demining programme in Eastern Slavonia with significant involvement from local demining companies, both Croatian and Serbian. The Centre is accepted as the coordinator of demining activities and the provider of technical guidance. Several areas for improvement are being targeted, such as improving the demining standards of local companies through training and improved cooperation and coordination between the World Bank and the Government of Croatia.

6. Georgia

68. Owing to an increase in the number of mine incidents early this year in one of the operational zones of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG), the Mission was forced to suspend its vehicle patrols in the area and has in effect become unable to implement an important part of its mandate. Since demining is not part of the UNOMIG mandate, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs will send a team to Georgia in 1997 to assess the scale of the problem and to determine whether a demining programme should be established in the future.

7. Laos

69. Between 1964 and 1973, the Lao People's Democratic Republic experienced intense ground battles and extremely heavy aerial bombardments. More than 2 million tons of ordnance fell on the Lao People's Democratic Republic during this time, one-half ton for every man, woman and child in the Republic. The majority of the ordnance consisted of anti-personnel cluster bomb canisters, filled with mine-sized bomblets designed to detonate on impact. The failure rate for such cluster bombs is now estimated to be as high as 30 per cent, and the bombing has left the country infested with unexploded ordnance. More than 20 years after the conflict, 12 of the country's 17 provinces are still contaminated. In one province, surveys reveal that 45 per cent of the casualties are children under the age of 15.

70. In late 1995, UNDP and UNICEF collaborated with the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to establish an unexploded ordnance trust fund. To date, US$ 3.3 million has been pledged to the Trust Fund by six countries and UNDP, and more than $3.7 million has also been pledged as contributions in kind. In January 1996, a Steering Committee was established to oversee the Fund and to implement an integrated Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme. The functions of the Programme are threefold: to build a national capacity for unexploded ordnance activities; to prepare and implement a national unexploded ordnance strategy; and to coordinate clearance, surveying, training and community awareness programmes throughout the country.

71. UNDP is funding capacity-building initiatives, including management training for local staff of the Programme. A national training centre for clearance and community awareness techniques has also been established, with

equipment and personnel provided by the Government of the United States of America.

72. In the past two years, 19,000 devices have been removed and 80 hectares of high-priority land cleared. Clearance work is being conducted by an international non-governmental organization and a commercial company, both of which employ local deminers trained at the national training centre. The Programme has commissioned a nationwide socio-economic survey of the problem, to be completed by June 1997, that will guide all future clearance and awareness work. The Programme is working with government ministries, UNICEF, the Red Cross and local and international non-governmental organizations to implement community awareness and unexploded ordnance education programmes.

73. Plans for 1997 include training 300 deminers and expanding awareness and clearance activities to an additional five provinces, at an additional cost of $6 million.

8. Mozambique

74. When Mozambique's 16-year civil war finally came to an end in 1992, it was estimated that some 2 million landmines had been deployed in the country. Since then, more accurate surveys have shown the initial figure to be somewhat high, but the humanitarian impact of the landmine problem has never been disputed. Figures for the number of landmine casualties in the country are unreliable, and range from 7,000 to 15,000. Statistics vary owing to a lack of comprehensive surveying as well as the desperate state of the country's medical infrastructure: casualties arriving at Maputo Central Hospital have generally travelled for two to four days, far exceeding the six-hour period after which the threat of infection or complication increases. However, national capacity-building proceeds apace, clearance targets continue to be met and the country's shattered infrastructure is steadily returning to life.

75. The Accelerated Demining Programme, established in 1994 by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, continues to function as the focus of mine-clearance efforts in Mozambique. Its initial mandate was to coordinate the development of a national mine-clearance capacity and to initiate mine-clearance, surveying and training programmes. With this in mind, in May 1995 the Government of Mozambique established the National Mine Clearance Commission, with responsibility for the development of all national demining policies. The Accelerated Demining Programme is working closely with the Commission, strengthening managerial foundations and ensuring that funding and equipment for the project will be sustained. It is planned that the indigenous organization will take over full operation of the Programme by the end of January 1997.

76. Mozambican specialists are now in charge of each department at Commission headquarters, with 34 national staff members and six expatriate technical advisers. The field operation consists of 430 Mozambican deminers deployed in 10 platoons, with 16 additional surveyors and 10 expatriate trainers, one for each platoon. The number of expatriates in the field will decline significantly over the next few years, although continuing technical advice will be required.

77. Responsibility for mine clearance is divided among a consortium of commercial and non-governmental organizations, some operating independently and others contracted by United Nations agencies. The total area cleared thus far is more than 20 square kilometres, including roads, agricultural land, power transmission lines, towns and villages. By June 1996, the Accelerated Demining Programme itself had cleared 7,622 mines, 3,822 unexploded bombs and munitions, 24,000 items of ammunition and a total area of 997,121 square metres. Priority clearance has progressed from defensive ring minefields around towns to local infrastructure targets such as wells, schools and clinics. Owing to the clearance efforts of the World Food Programme, clearance has been completed on many major land routes throughout the country, allowing greater freedom of movement for people and commercial traffic.

78. The Accelerated Demining Programme has completed a field trial of new mine-clearance technology, which has proved very rapid in the clearance of ring minefields but requires a follow-up clearance to reach the required standards. The equipment has the potential to prove helpful in some of the larger ring minefields, and its future deployment is under negotiation. The Programme is also testing the utility of trained demining dogs under local conditions. The national mine-clearance database is still managed by the Accelerated Demining Programme and is in the process of being transferred to the Government.

79. The National Mine Clearance Commission, with assistance from UNDP, is currently developing a national mine-clearance plan, which will be launched in the near future. The plan lays out mine-clearance priorities and represents a significant step in the development of an indigenous demining capacity.

80. If funding can be guaranteed, the outlook for mine-clearance operations is optimistic. After initial delays and frustration, targets are now being met and the transfer of responsibility to the national Government is proceeding.

9. Yemen

81. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs carried out a mission in the Aden area in early 1995 to assess the problems that minefields pose to the indigenous population. As a result of this assessment, a demining specialist was dispatched by the Department to liaise with the Government and military authorities; to coordinate a mine survey; to establish a mine database and to supervise the deployment of mine-clearance teams. The programme was originally scheduled to terminate in September 1995, but at the request of the Government it was extended for another six months, to March 1996.

E. Resources for mine-clearance activities

1. Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance

82. The Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance was established by the Secretary-General in November 1994 to address the funding requirements of humanitarian demining operations. The Trust Fund is the primary mechanism for financing humanitarian mine-related activities in a timely and effective manner.

The Fund was designed to provide financial resources for quick response to requests for assistance in humanitarian mine-clearance activities, facilitating the provision of relief assistance and the safe return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes as soon as possible.

83. Since most costs are incurred during the start-up phase of a demining programme, contributions from the Trust Fund have been used primarily to facilitate the timely initiation of demining programmes, particularly in the setting up of mine-action centres to support the strengthening of local and national mine-clearance capabilities. They are also used as a channel for assessment missions for support of essential activities of national demining programmes, for bridging funding delays during programme implementation, for public-awareness campaigns and for mine-related activities at Headquarters (see annex I).

84. To date, $32.7 million has been pledged to the Trust Fund (see annex II), and $23,285,084 received. Of this amount, just over $8 million (28 per cent) was non-earmarked, available for mine-clearance programmes at the discretion of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs. Since the establishment of the Trust Fund, $1.77 million was utilized in 1995 and approximately $9 million has been disbursed during the first three quarters of 1996. It is anticipated that by the end of 1996, a total of $12 million will be disbursed for the calendar year 1996. Resources have been used to support the demining programmes in Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mozambique, Croatia, Eastern Slavonia and Yemen. Resources have also been used to provide policy support and technical backstopping to the programmes in Cambodia, Afghanistan and Laos.

85. In the short period since its establishment, the Trust Fund has demonstrated its usefulness in facilitating early action by the international demining community, including the activities of the non-governmental organizations. It has also served as an established multilateral channel for donors to support the coordinated implementation of humanitarian demining programmes. While earmarked contributions by donors limited, to a certain degree, the flexibility of the United Nations response, consultations between the Department of Humanitarian Affairs and the concerned donors have helped the latter focus their support on priority areas. However, it is hoped that donor Governments will consider increasing their unearmarked contributions to the Trust Fund, as the Department of Humanitarian Affairs continues to strengthen its capacity to manage the Trust Fund in a timely and effective manner.

86. The utilization of the Trust Fund in the last 18 months has also highlighted a number of areas where improvements would further enhance its overall effectiveness. One such area where improvements are needed refers to the procedures for the utilization of the Fund, which tend to slow down the rate of disbursement. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs, together with the Department of Administration and Management, will initiate a review of these procedures with a view to speeding up disbursements. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs will also work with donors to find ways to expedite the process of consultation and approval for the use of earmarked resources.

87. In the light of the experience of the use of the Trust Fund so far and the growing demand for humanitarian demining activities, it is estimated that

disbursements from the Trust Fund will increase from $12 million in 1996 to at least $15 million in 1997. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs has continued to receive donors' contributions to the Trust Fund following the initial pledges totalling $21.6 million at the Pledging Conference at Geneva in July 1995 in the amount of $11.1 million up to September 1996. While the Department of Humanitarian Affairs will continue to mobilize donor support for humanitarian demining activities, there would seem to be merit in considering the convening of an annual donors' meeting to replenish the Fund. On the basis of existing demands for resources from the Trust Fund and the expenditures incurred so far, it is estimated that the Fund will require replenishments of some $15 million for 1997.

2. Consolidated inter-agency appeal

88. The consolidated inter-agency appeal process, coordinated by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, is the primary mechanism for mobilizing resources for complex emergencies. Recently, mine-related programmes have been included in the appeal process. In 1996, mine-action activities have been included in the consolidated appeals for Afghanistan, the former Yugoslavia, Iraq and Angola.

3. Assessed peacekeeping contributions

89. In Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, the peacekeeping forces were mandated to carry out mine-clearance operations with funding provided through assessed contributions. In Angola, the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM III) had the most comprehensive programme, with more than $18 million from assessed budgets since February 1995 for the establishment of a demining school and the deployment of trained deminers and managers for humanitarian demining activities.

4. Demining standby capacity

90. The concept of standby capacity for mine-related activities was launched at the International Meeting on Mine Clearance in 1995, to give the United Nations the ability to quickly and efficiently draw on resources in personnel, equipment and facilities contributed by Member States to mine-related activities. Having the means to match demining needs with existing in-kind contributions should significantly enhance the productivity of mine-related programmes.

91. The need for a standby capacity grew from the past experience of humanitarian mine-clearance programmes. The United Nations has often sought direct support for such programmes through in-kind contributions of personnel and equipment. Certain elements of mine-action programmes, such as technical assessments, surveys and specific training tasks, are of limited duration and require expertise and equipment. Additional programme elements, such as the establishment of an effective communications system or the provision of medical support to demining teams, are often best furnished through in-kind contributions. Similarly, Member States can give significant support by providing expert personnel to serve in or give advice to mine-action programmes

in the field or in the Mine Clearance and Policy Unit of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs in New York.

92. The standby capacity is managed by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, which oversees the acceptance of contributions and manages their distribution. Details of contributions are recorded in the United Nations Landmine Database. To date, contributions to the standby capacity have been received from the Governments of Finland, Germany and the United States of America, as well as from an international non-governmental organization, Handicap International. Equipment and personnel contributed through the standby capacity have been deployed in Angola and Mozambique. The development of the standby capacity has been slow and is in need of enhanced support from Member States.

5. New technology

93. Demining programmes must operate in different environments, dealing in many instances with either heavy vegetation, rocky terrain or soil conditions not conducive to effective mine detection. While manual mine clearance continues to be the mainstay of mine-removal programmes, new and varied combinations of mine-clearance technologies must be applied in the field to move the process forward. All demining methods have performance limitations under which they must operate owing to varied physical conditions. Therefore, a toolbox approach has been explored, whereby a set of different techniques and tools could be used to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of demining operations.

94. New multi-sensor technologies in mine detection are emerging but it is not likely that a breakthrough will occur within the next three to five years. However, new sensor research should be encouraged for a long-term solution to today's detection field requirements. Ground-penetrating radar, microwave, visible spectrum photography, photon backscatter and biosensors are some of the techniques with potential for major developments within the mine-detection spectrum.

6. Improved standards

95. A framework for international standards for humanitarian mine clearance was recommended at the International Conference on Mine Clearance Technology, hosted by the Government of Denmark in July 1996. These standards were developed to enhance the safety and efficiency of mine-clearance programmes throughout the world.

96. Criteria were recommended for all aspects of mine clearance, starting with the mine-survey process. Minefield-marking standards were prescribed to create a universal visual demarcation of a mined area to warn the population of the presence of danger. Quality assurance was addressed through the proposal of specific guidelines for applying standards to contractors, non-governmental organizations and individuals engaged in demining activities. Safety standards were reviewed in detail to establish such items as safety distances, early warning requirements and procedures for the use of explosives, and medical and communications requirements. Medical support standards addressed the training

of medical personnel, the deployment of medical teams and the required medical equipment and supplies needed at each level.

97. As a follow-up to the Copenhagen Conference, the United Nations will consult with participants of the Conference with a view to translating the approved framework into detail standards, taking into account comments made during the Conference. Once endorsed by the international community, the United Nations will promote the application of such standards for humanitarian demining activities.

F. Advocating a lasting solution to a ban on landmines

98. This year, more than ever before, the issue of landmines has received significant political attention. This was due primarily to the first Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, and the various public-awareness efforts that accompanied the negotiations. Many organizations deserve credit for raising the issue of landmines to the international political agenda, including the International Committee of the Red Cross and the hundreds of non-governmental organizations that together form the International Campaign to Ban Landmines.

99. After a series of meetings, the Review Conference reached a compromise agreement in May 1996, placing some additional restrictions on the production, trade and use of landmines. In some respects important progress was made. Amendments to Protocol II, which deals with landmines, include a ban on the use of non-detectable mines and the transfer of such mines; restrictions on mines that do not self-destruct or self-deactivate; restrictions on the remote delivery of mines; the prohibition of anti-sensing devices designed to disrupt clearance operations; and an extension of the Protocol's scope to cover internal armed conflicts. A mechanism ensuring the systematic review of the operation and implementation of the provisions of the amended Protocol has been established by agreeing to hold annual conferences of the States parties to the Protocol. Agreement has also been reached to hold the next Review Conference no later than 2001.

100. Important though these agreements are, the amended Protocol presents only limited progress towards the eventual elimination of anti-personnel mines. It allows for nine-year grace periods for compliance with the requirements of detectability and self-destruction and self-deactivation mechanisms. It does not contain a full prohibition of mines that do not self-destruct and of remotely delivered mines. Nor does it provide for meaningful independent verification and compliance mechanisms. With its many shortcomings, the amended Protocol still represents a step forward. It is important that Member States notify their consent to the amended Protocol as soon as possible. The United Nations and its agencies will continue to work closely with non-governmental organizations worldwide to seek to ensure that the momentum towards a total ban on landmines continues. Currently, a total of 53 countries have shown their support for such a ban, and this number is steadily increasing. Only a total

ban can stop the continual escalation of the number of mines and of the terrible suffering they cause.

101. Governments are encouraged to work towards national legislation on the landmine issue, and to recognize the laudable efforts of grass-roots organizations in their countries. The actions taken to eliminate landmines by regional organizations, including the European Union and the Organization of American States, are also to be praised.

G. Promoting greater public support

102. With the issue of landmines now firmly on the public agenda there is a need for the United Nations to strengthen its landmine information activities and to build a coordinated advocacy strategy for the coming years. The United Nations landmine advocacy efforts to date include promoting better practices and safety procedures for demining, advocating new and improved technology and supporting efforts to achieve a total ban on landmines.

103. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs has already initiated a number of public information activities which form the basis for future activities. In January 1996, the Department published the first issue of a quarterly landmines newsletter aimed at Governments, non-governmental organizations, the media and the public. The newsletter contains updates on United Nations and non-United Nations programmes, information on developments in demining technology, notices of upcoming landmine-related conferences and events, and guest contributions from a variety of landmine specialists.

104. A mobile landmines exhibit was first displayed at the International Meeting on Mine Clearance in 1995. Since then it has been loaned to the Government of Austria for display in Vienna and to the non-governmental organization, Norwegian People's Aid, for display in Oslo. It was also displayed in the United Nations Secretariat Building in New York between April and September 1996. A measure of its success is the number of signatures it has solicited in support of a landmine ban, now totalling more than 2 million.

105. The Department for Humanitarian Affairs will continue to liaise with the international media on landmine issues, preparing press kits for relevant events and generating media coverage of United Nations mine-related activities.

106. The Department will also continue to update and expand the United Nations Landmine Database, the most comprehensive source of information on landmines in the world. The database contains country reports, demining and casualty statistics, information on types of mines, and status reports on the various mine-related resolutions and conventions. It is referred to by Governments, non-governmental organizations, academics, the media and the public. It can be accessed through the World Wide Web.

III. CONCLUSION

107. The magnitude of the international landmine crisis is summarized by its grim arithmetic: there are an estimated 110 million mines buried in the ground in more than 70 countries. These mines are waiting to kill and maim innocent children gathering firewood or farmers tending their fields. These mines will continue to kill for many decades to come. There are an estimated 25,000 mine-related casualties worldwide each year. Most of these victims are civilians. United Nations-sponsored and other coordinated efforts have deployed approximately 6,000 deminers to tackle the crisis. The human effort and the cost of removing mines are an exceptionally serious challenge for the humanitarian community. It is a battle against time, because more mines are being laid every day. Mines are extremely cheap to produce - often less than $5 each - yet expensive to neutralize and destroy: finding and blowing up a single one can cost anywhere between $100 and $1,000.

108. Assuming no new mines were laid, removing all mines currently in the ground could cost anywhere between $50 billion and $100 billion (at current prices), and at the present pace of clearing 100,000 landmines per year, it would take many decades to overcome the crisis. This gives an idea of the magnitude of the gap between the goal to rid the world of landmines and the present reality.

109. The human and social cost of the landmine crisis extends far beyond the cost of neutralizing and removing them. The cost of the lives lost has no price. The cost of caring for mine victims is a heavy burden for weak societies recovering from conflict. The loss of development opportunities both for individuals and for society as a whole is inestimable. Mine victims represent a terrible loss of human and productive assets. Mined fields and mined roads deny access and impede economic activity. Mined houses make reconstruction and the return of the displaced impossible. Mines are therefore a formidable obstacle to development.

110. Despite specific and deliberate efforts to make mine-clearance programmes as indigenous and sustainable as possible, the magnitude and the cost of the task are such that it is well beyond the capability of individual affected countries. A major and sustained international effort will be required to address the global landmine crisis, in particular its long-term development aspects. The international community must be aware that this will be a major financial undertaking. Though this may appear to be very costly, the human and economic costs of inaction will undoubtedly be higher. It is therefore of critical importance that Member States continue and strengthen their support for the Voluntary Trust Fund.

111. The proliferation and use of landmines is a deadly and eminently preventable humanitarian disaster that has lasting social and economic consequences. Immediate steps must be taken to stop the production, stockpiling, marketing and use of landmines and to convince those countries that allow these activities to stop doing so.

112. The use of landmines is an intolerable blemish on civilization. Humanitarian organizations and non-governmental organizations throughout the world are actively campaigning for a total ban on landmines. An increasing

number of Governments are actively supporting this initiative. The ban is rapidly becoming an achievable objective for the near future.

113. Finding and destroying landmines that have been treacherously hidden in the ground is a difficult, costly and, above all, dangerous task. An increasing number of humanitarian workers, peacekeepers and local deminers are giving their best every day to make life safe for the victims of conflict. Many have died or have been injured while carrying out their duty. It is only fitting that the present report should end with a tribute to their courage and dedication.

ANNEX I

Disbursement of funds from the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance

Recipient	Project	Budget for 1995	Budget for 1996
		(United States dollars)	
Angola	Continuation of CMAO	0	201 300
	Support to INAROE (Handicap International)	0	1 073 710
	Survey and clearance (Mine Action Group)	0	452 000
	Mine awareness (UNICEF/INAROE)	0	452 000
	Survey feeder roads (WFP/Halo)	0	339 000
	Survey (Norwegian People's Aid)	0	452 000
	Supervisor contract	0	1 200 000
Mozambique	United Nations Mine-Clearance Programme	0	3 583 714
Yemen	Technical Assistance to the Government of Yemen	173 030	31 500
United Nations Headquarters	Funding of Mine Clearance and Policy Unit	935 800	1 235 881
	International Conference on Mine Clearance/New York exhibition	590 000	10 000
	International Conference on Mine Clearance Technology	0	250 000
	Study on socio-economic impact of landmines	70 000	0
Croatia	Establishing Mine Action Centre	0	2 422 030
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Establishing Mine Action Centre	0	2 268 603
Total		1 768 830	13 971 738

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ANNEX II

Funds received and pledged for the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance, as at 1 October 1996

Donor	Amount (United States dollars)
Australia	601 810
Belgium	180 000
Brazil	3 000
Cambodia	1 000
Canada	447 113
Croatia	1 000
Czech Republic	22 500
Denmark	4 172 949
European Union	8 528 052
Finland	500 000
France	395 818
Germany	175 000
Greece	80 000
Holy See	4 000
Iceland	5 000
Indonesia	40 000
Ireland	336 610
Israel	70 000
Italy	617 283
Japan	5 100 060
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	25 000
Liechtenstein	7 785
Luxembourg	226 568
Malta	1 952
Monaco	10 000
Namibia	500
New Zealand	321 336
Norway	1 330 985
Portugal	150 000
Saudi Arabia	50 000
Slovakia	10 000
South Africa	10 000
Spain	205 000
Sweden	1 075 729

Donor	Amount
	(United States dollars)
Switzerland	818 448
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	987 175
United States of America	6 200 000 a/
Total	32 711 673

Note: Total pledged at Geneva Conference: $21,616,096; amount pledged since Geneva Conference: $11,095,577; total pledged as at 1 October 1996: $32,711,673.

a/ Includes $4 million from the Federal Military Fund.